



WDR 2008 : « Agriculture pour le Développement » - Atelier de Paris
Les organisations paysannes et rurales pour un développement durable en faveur des pauvres

Theme n°1

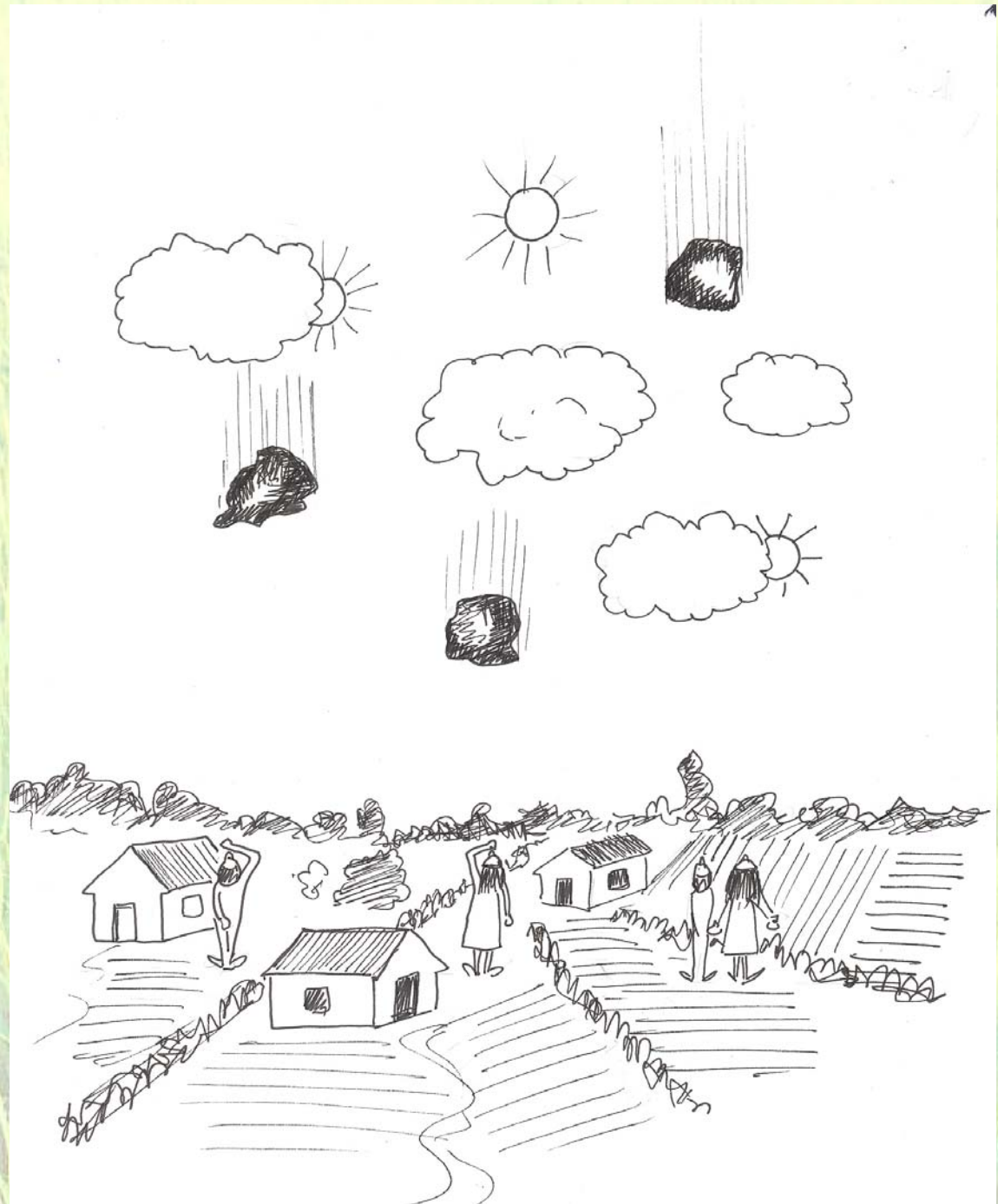
RPOs, empowerment of farmers and results of collective action

by

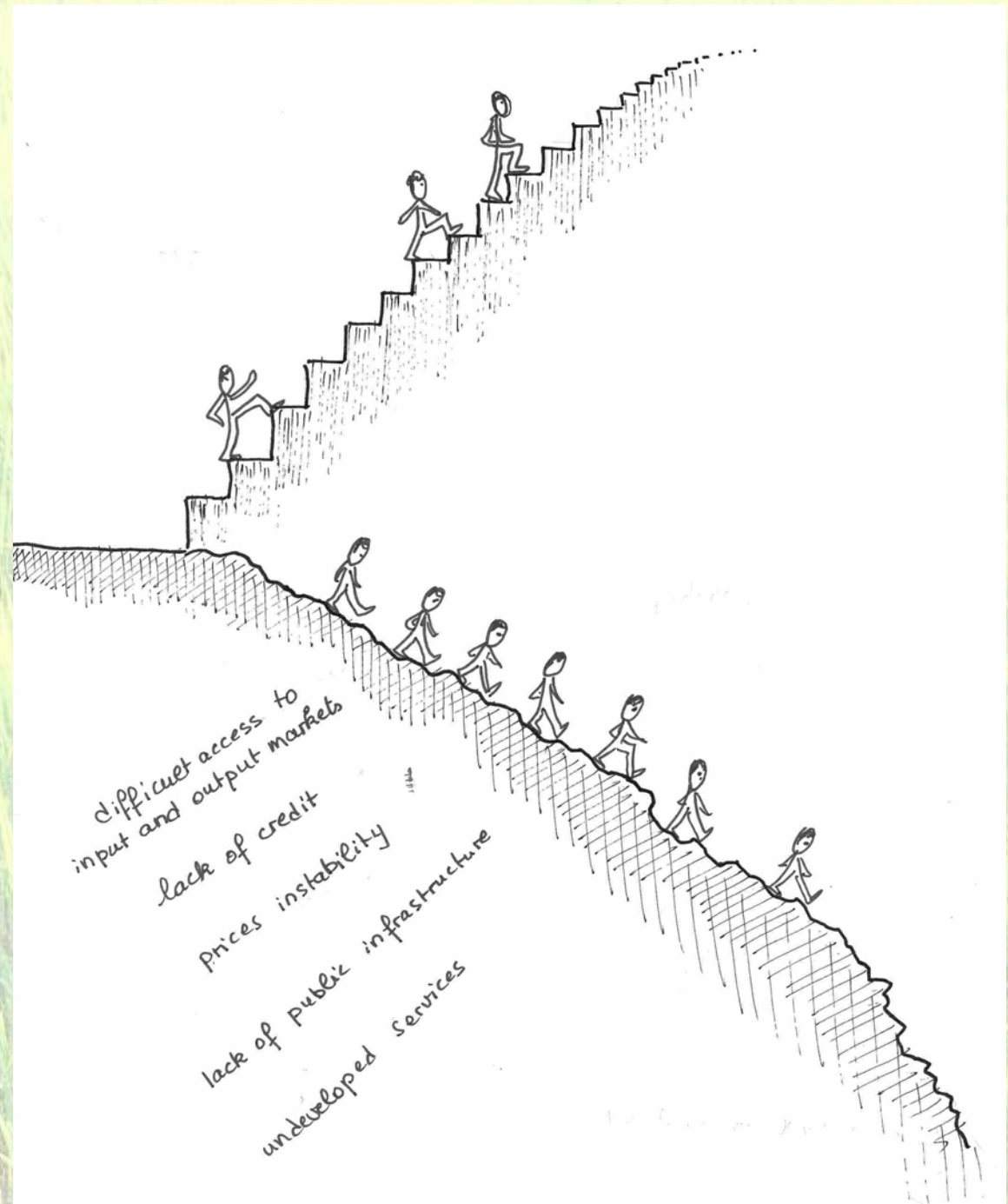
Marie-Rose Mercoiret (Cirad) and Jeanot Minla Mfou'ou (Canadel)

Rural population face a changing context

- New opportunities
- New constraints
- New challenge

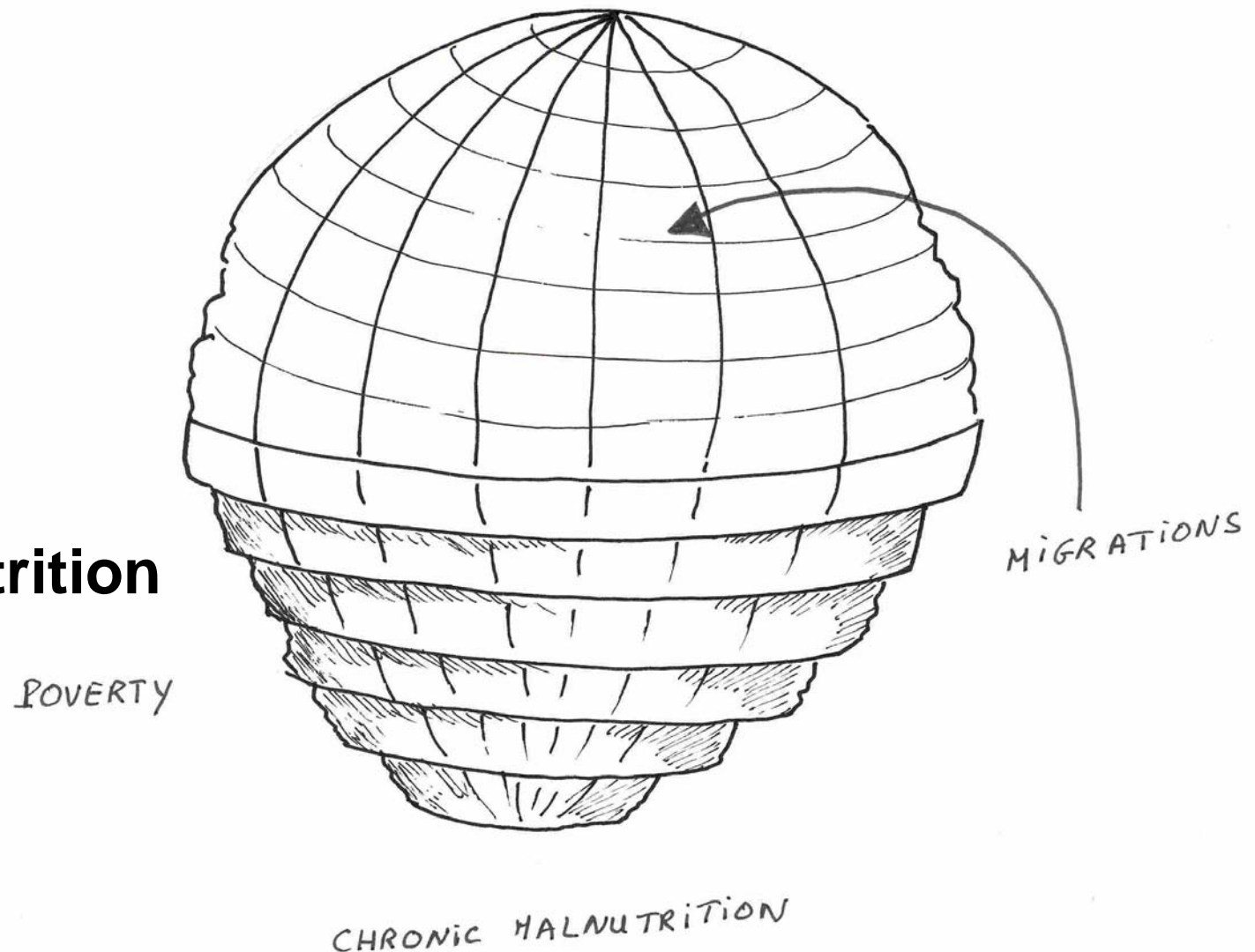


Unequal adaptation capacities

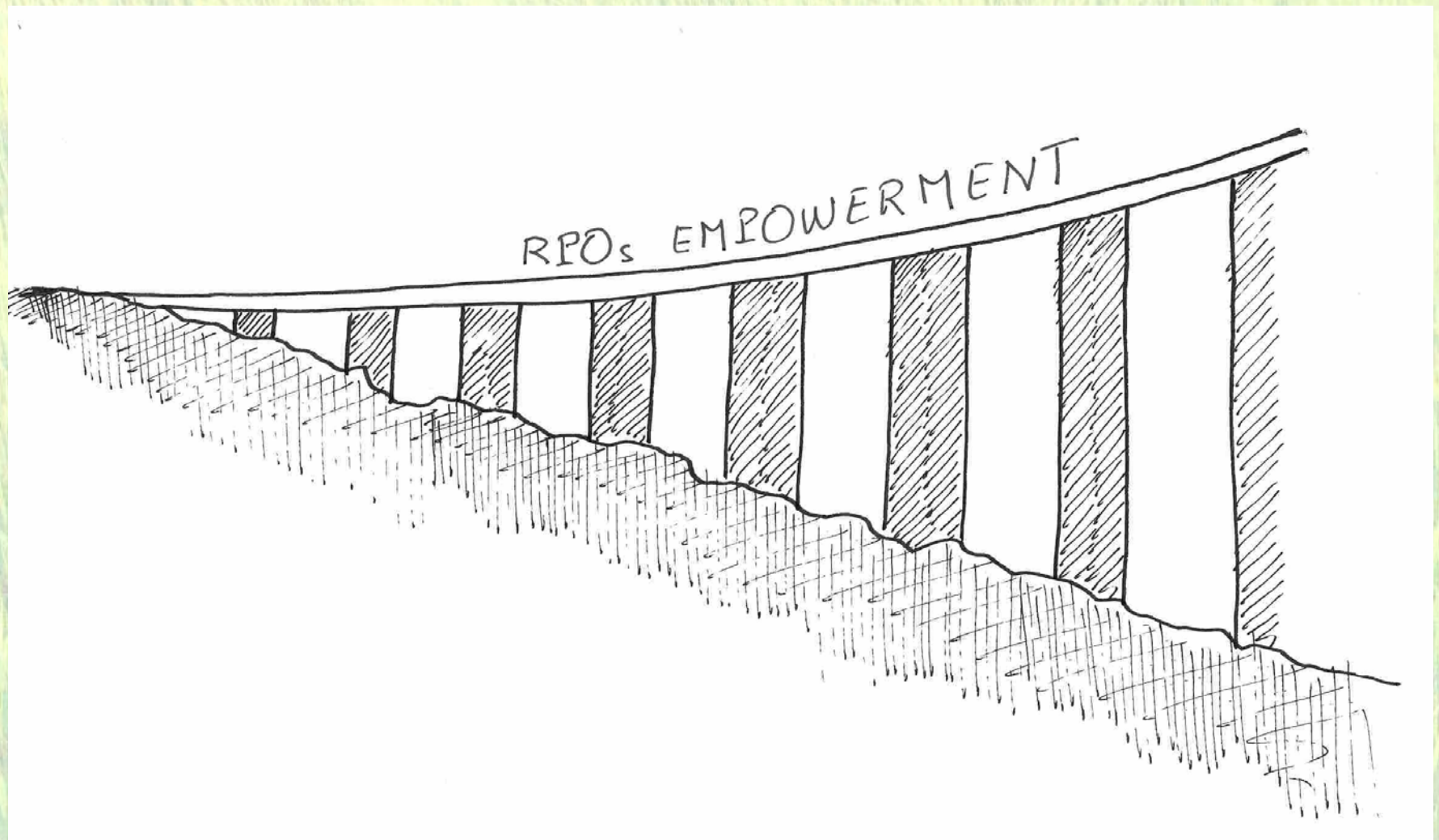


**In many regions,
Rural people
face :**

- Poverty
- Chronic malnutrition
- Migrations

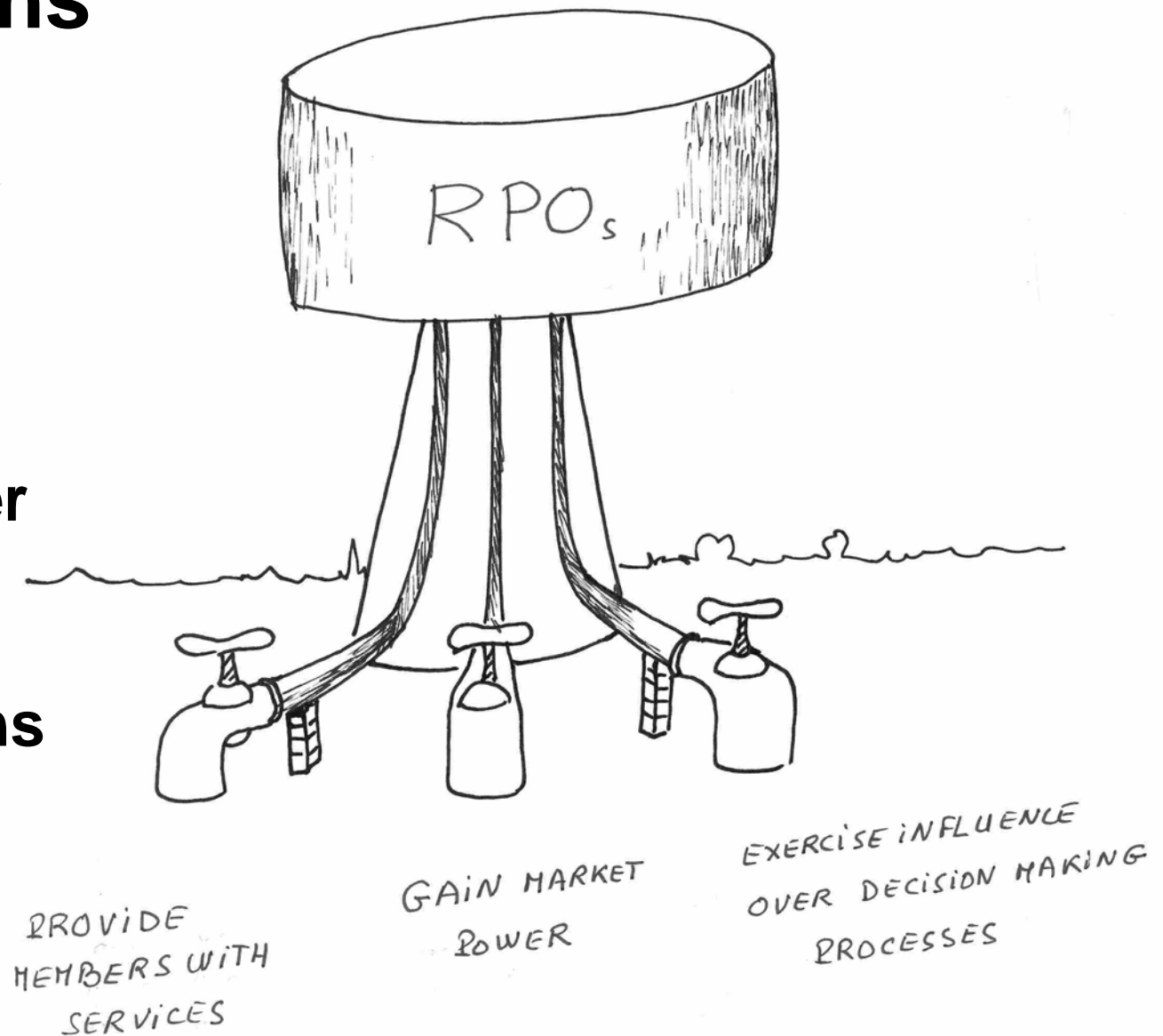


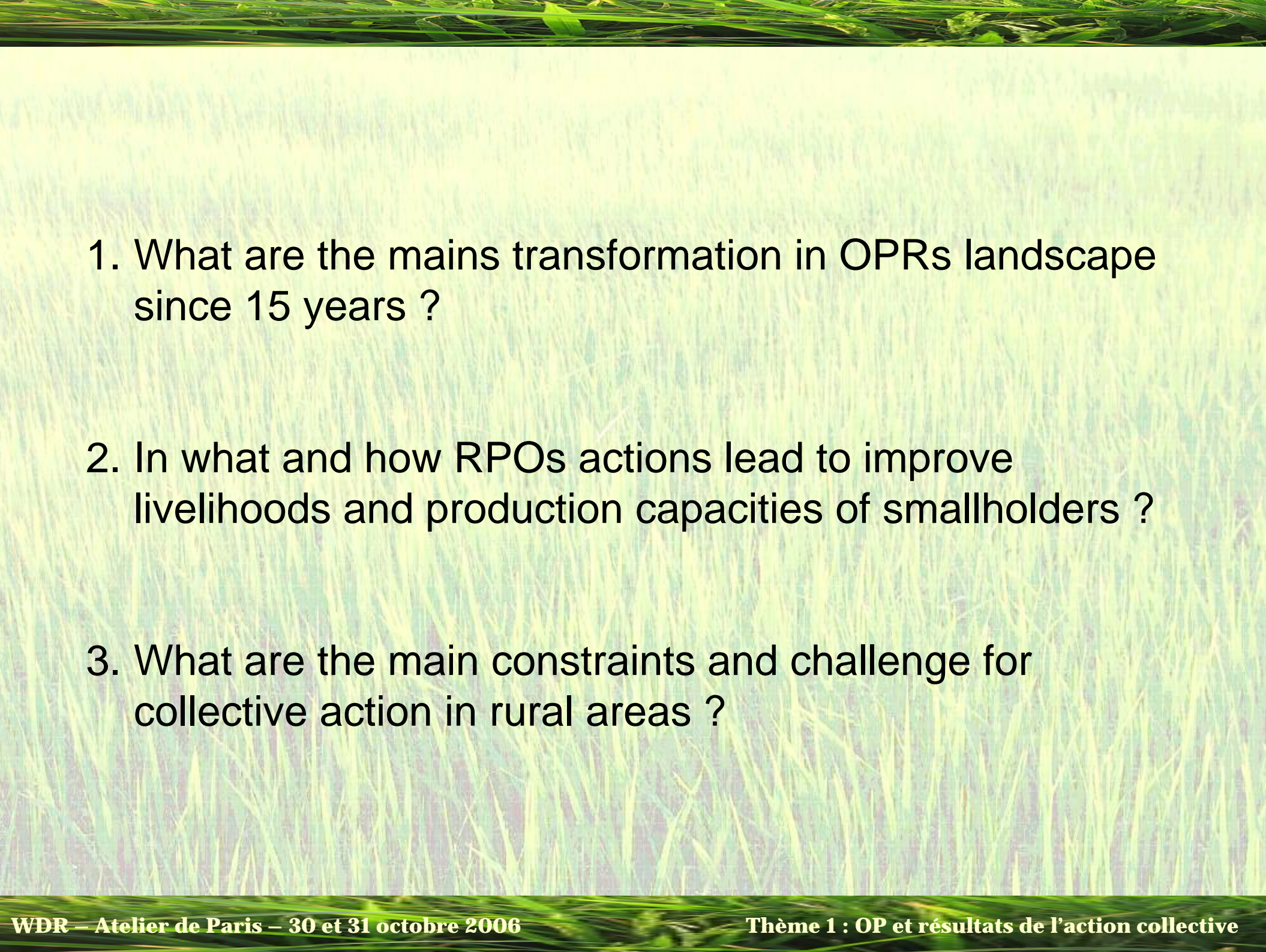
RPOs as Actors of Rural Development



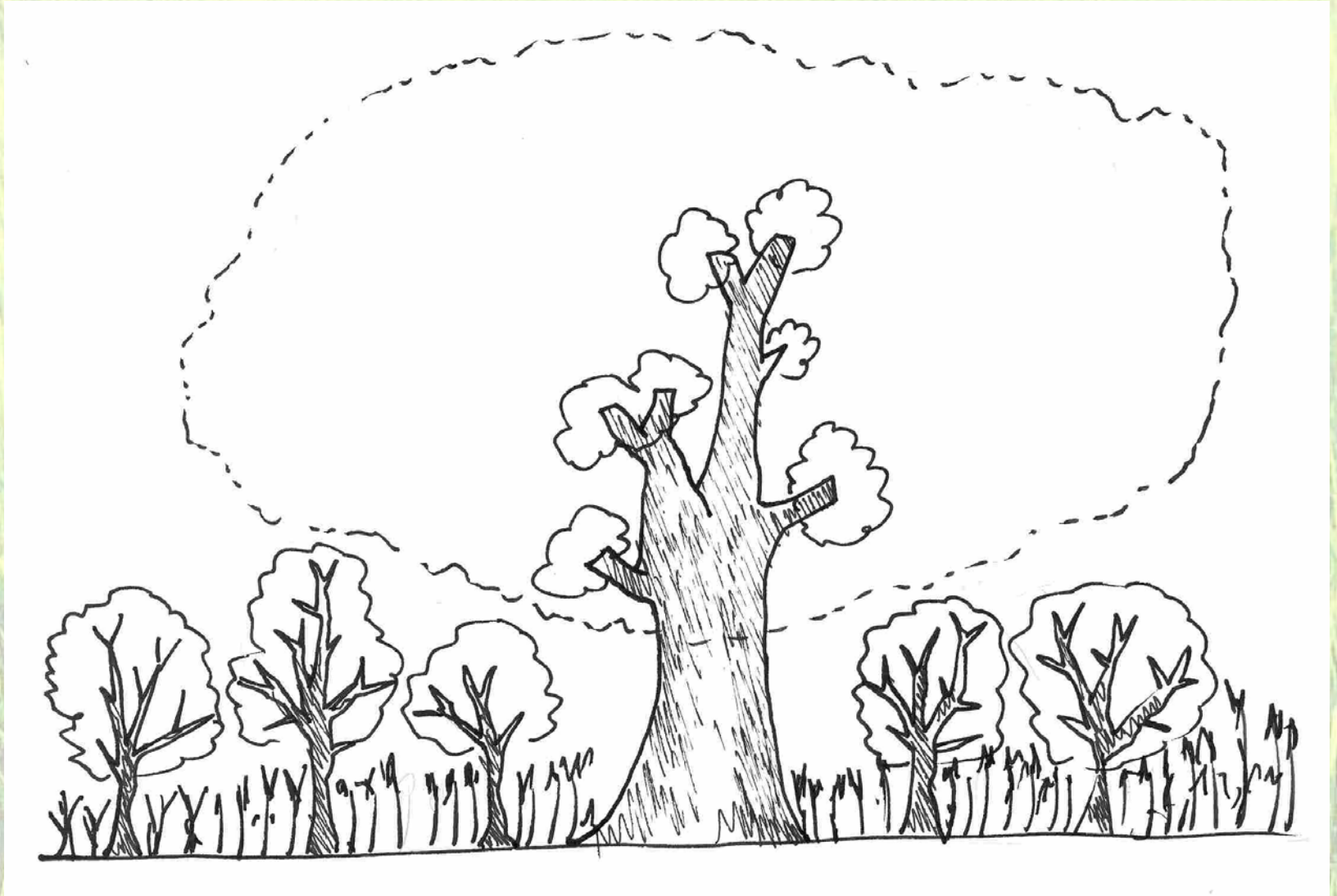
RPOs Functions

- Provide Services
- Gain Market Power
- Influence decisions



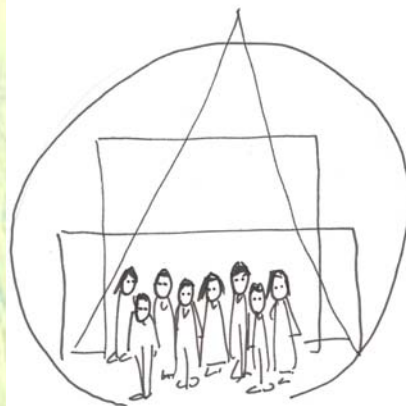
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1. What are the main transformations in OPRs landscape since 15 years ?
 2. In what and how RPOs actions lead to improve livelihoods and production capacities of smallholders ?
 3. What are the main constraints and challenge for collective action in rural areas ?

Local groups : A rapid rise in number and membership

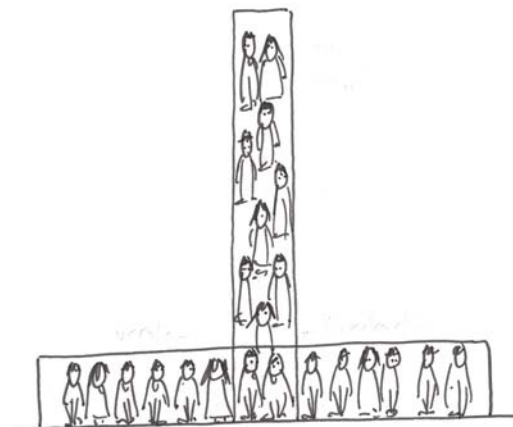


Local groups : diversity and main features

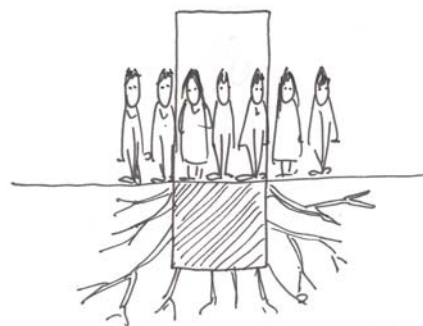
- Formal/...
- Specialized/...
- Inclusive/...
- Actives/...



cooperatives and other
formal and no formal
groups



specialized and multisectorial
groups



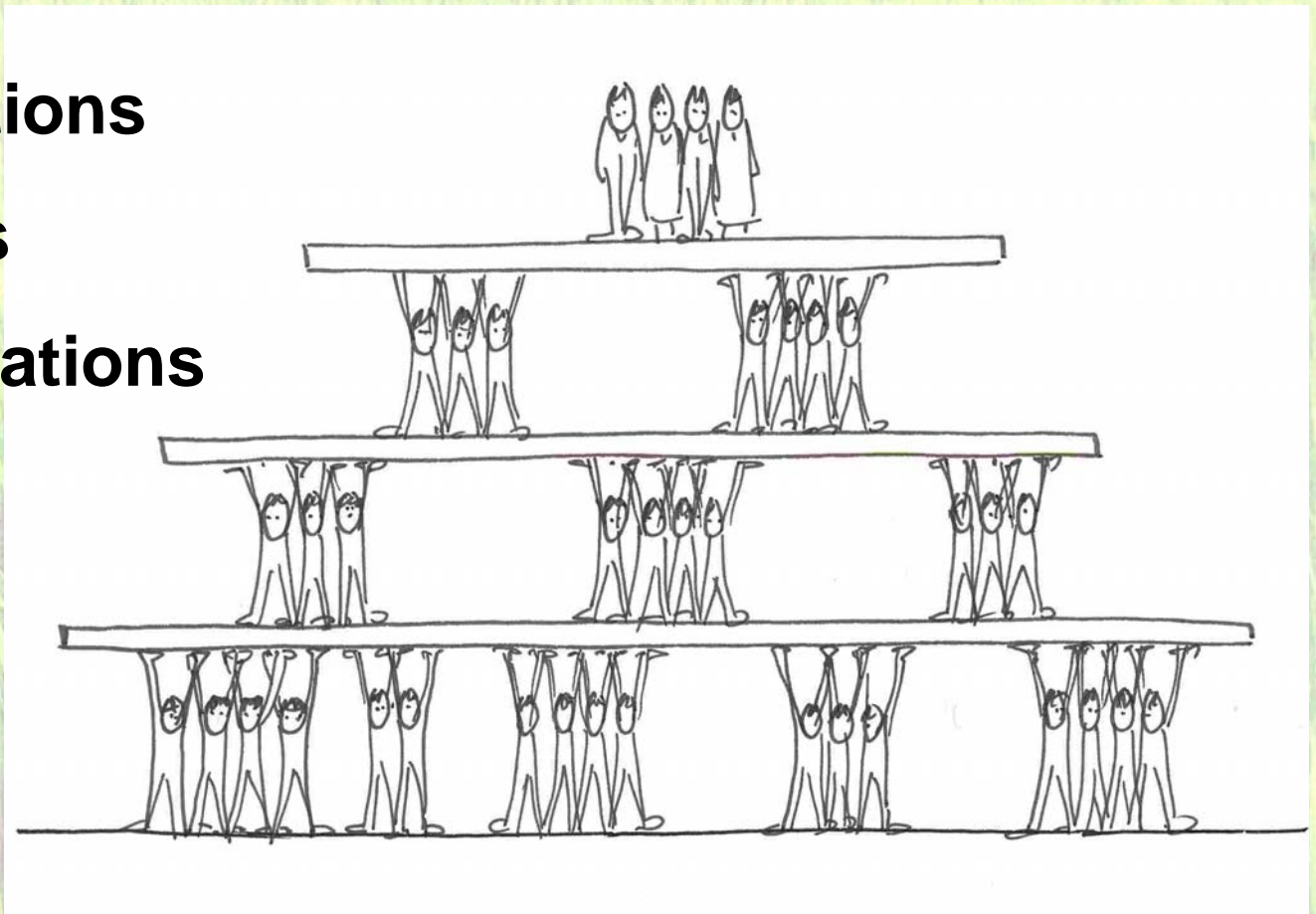
inclusiveness



heterogeneous level of activity

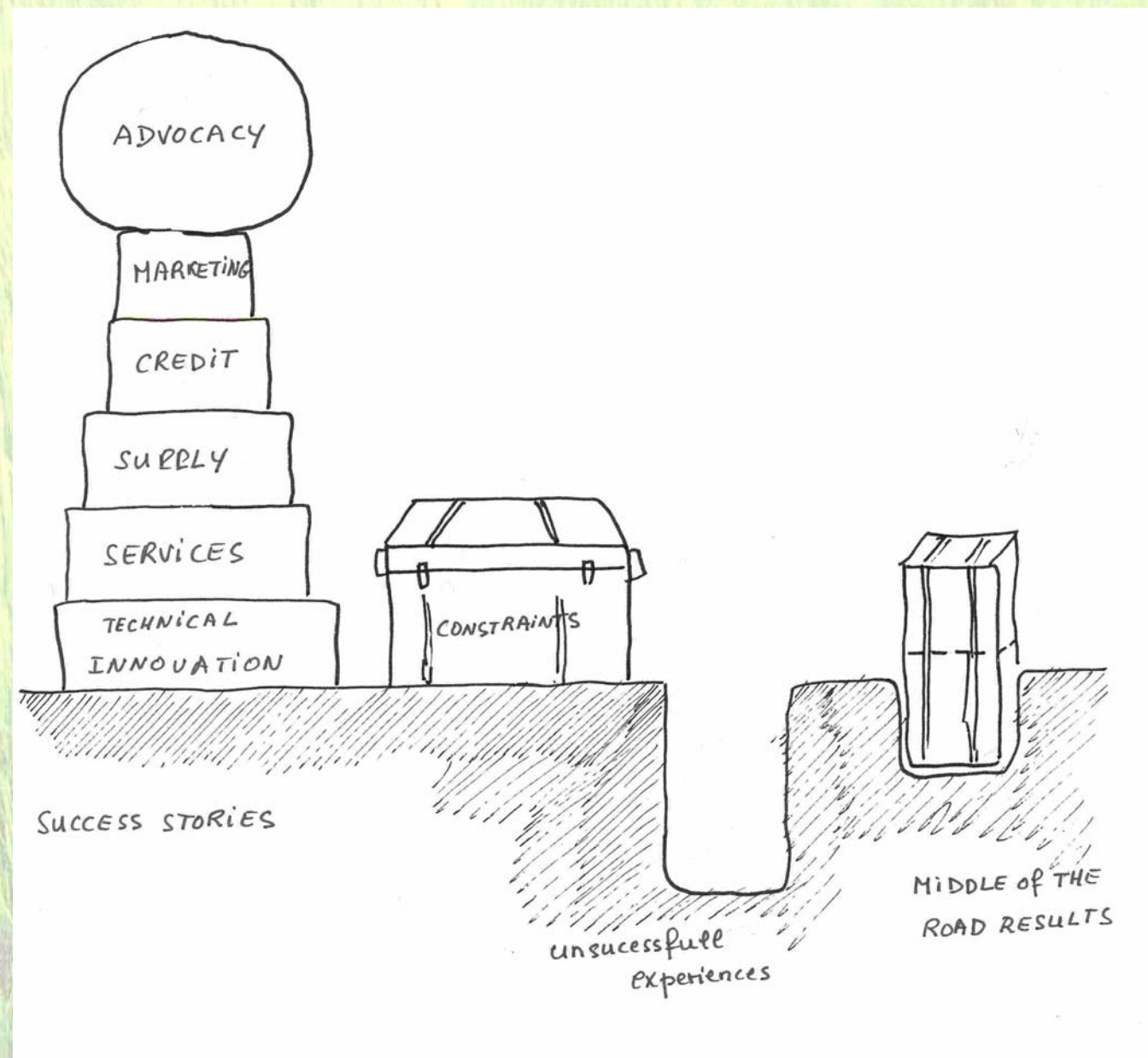
Federative organizations

- Subsector RPOs
- National coordinations
- Regional networks
- International federations



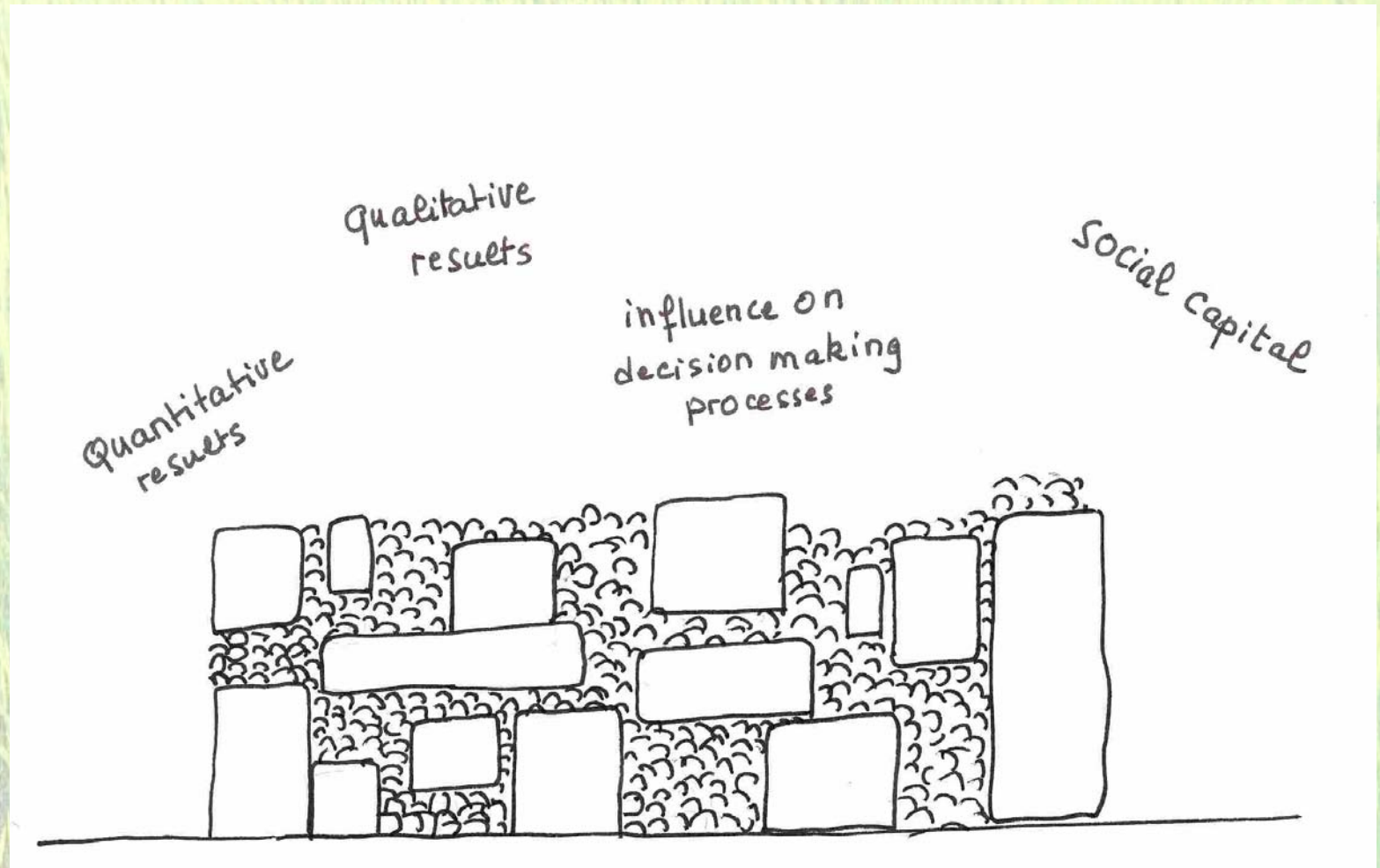
Effectiveness of collective action (1)

Varying results...

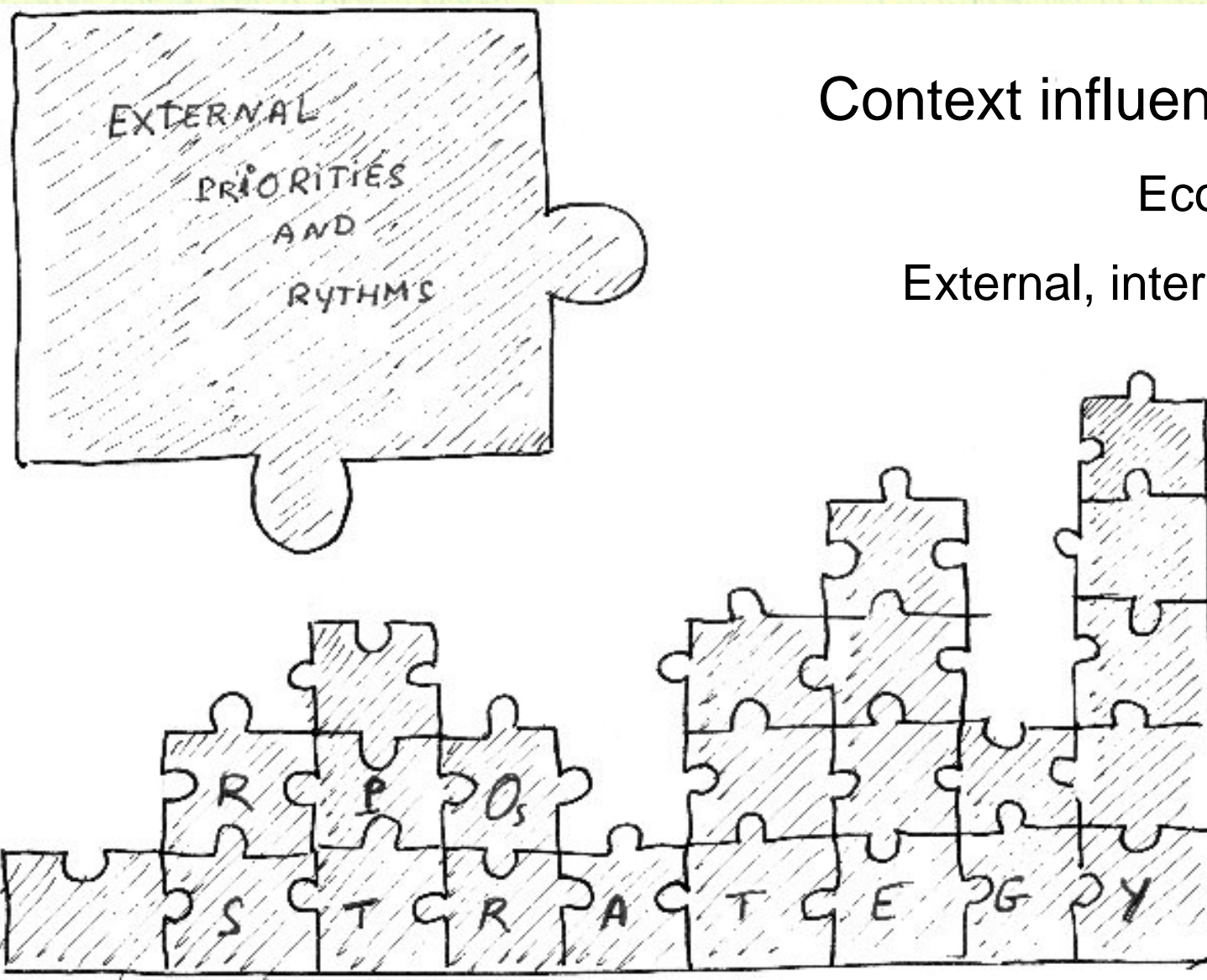


Effectiveness of collective action (2)

Varying results... How to assess them ?



Effectiveness of collective action (3)



Context influence on RPOs results :

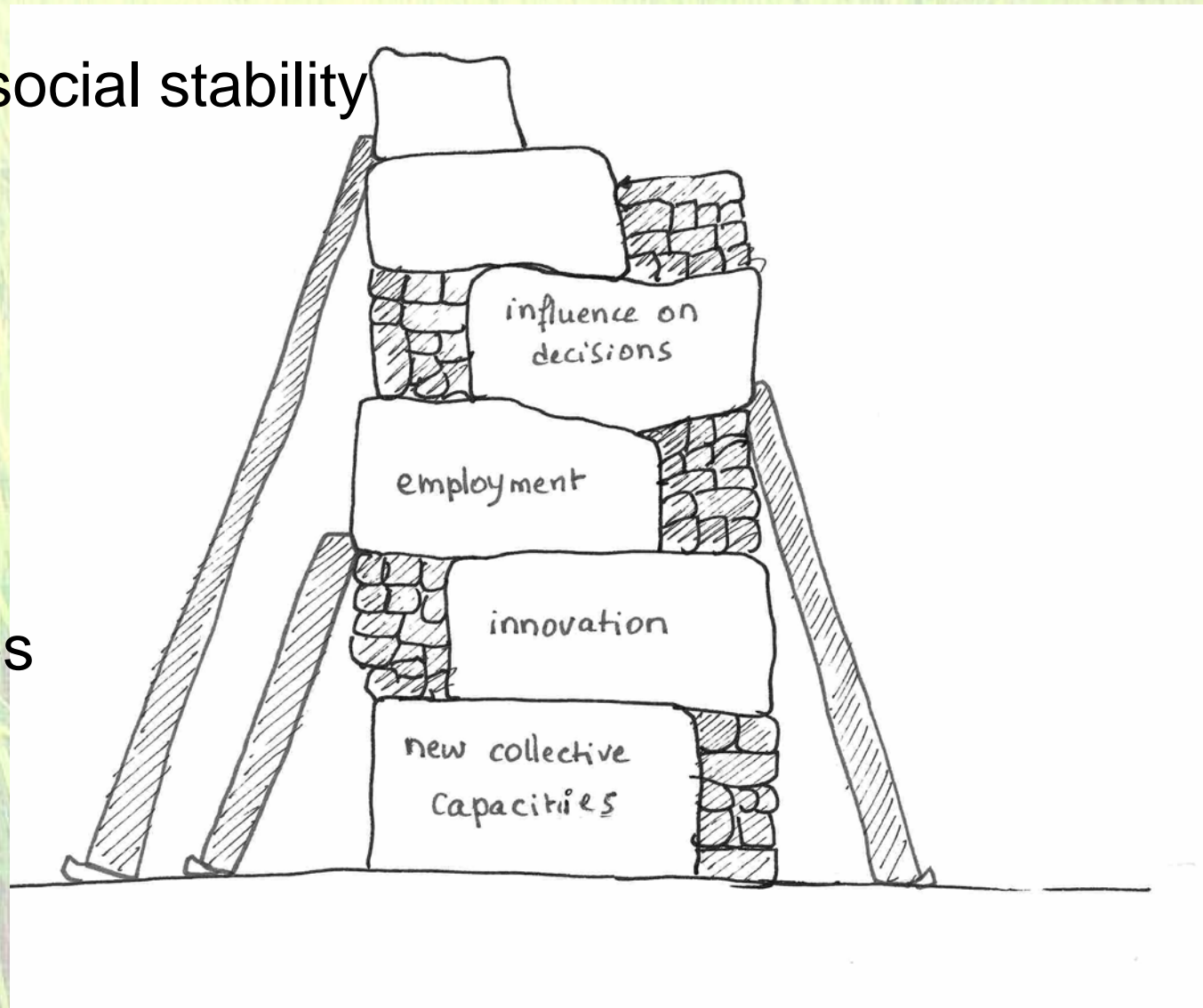
Economical, political context

External, internal priorities and rhythms

Effectiveness of collective action (4)

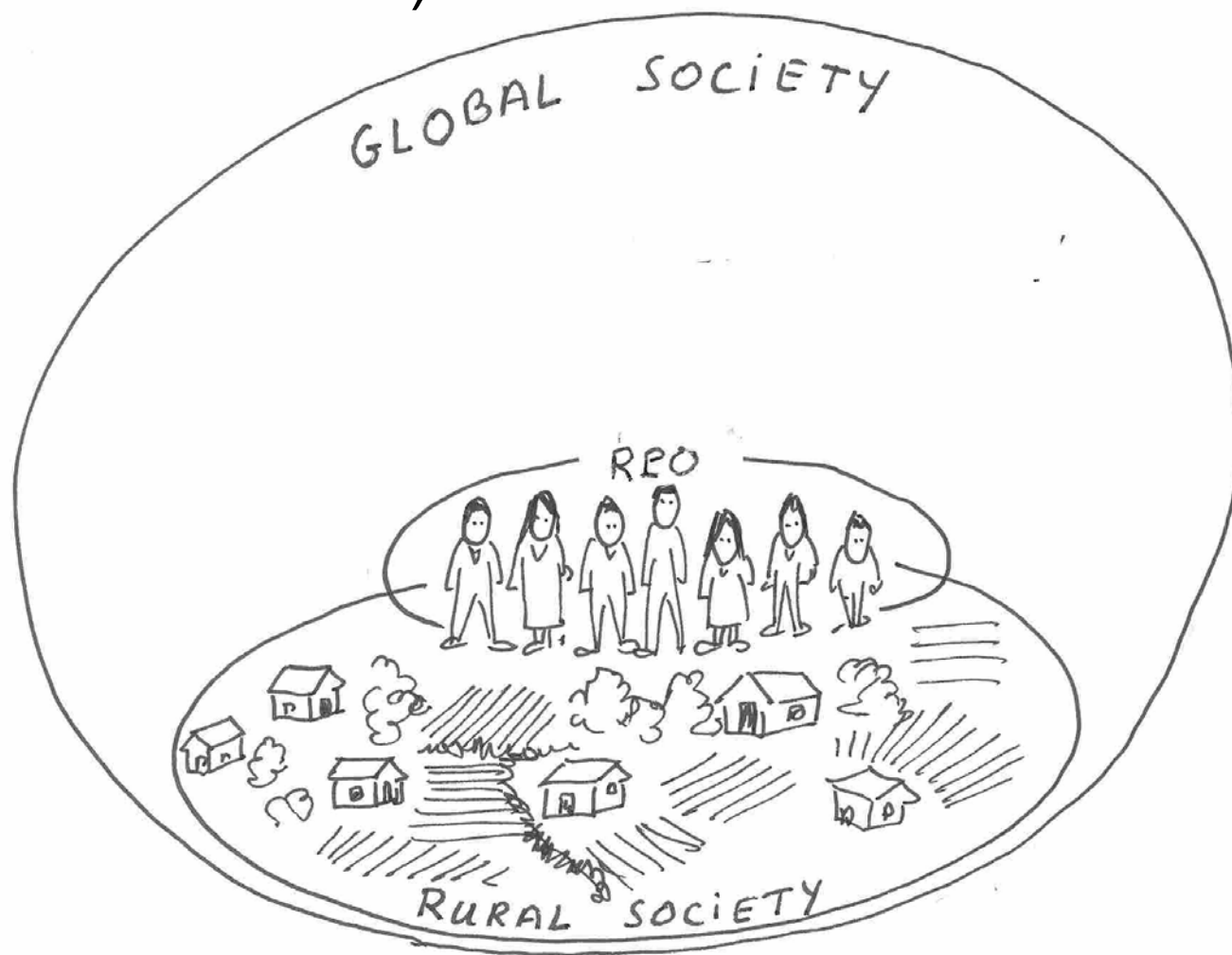
RPOs contribution to social stability

- New relationship
- Economical, social and political challenges



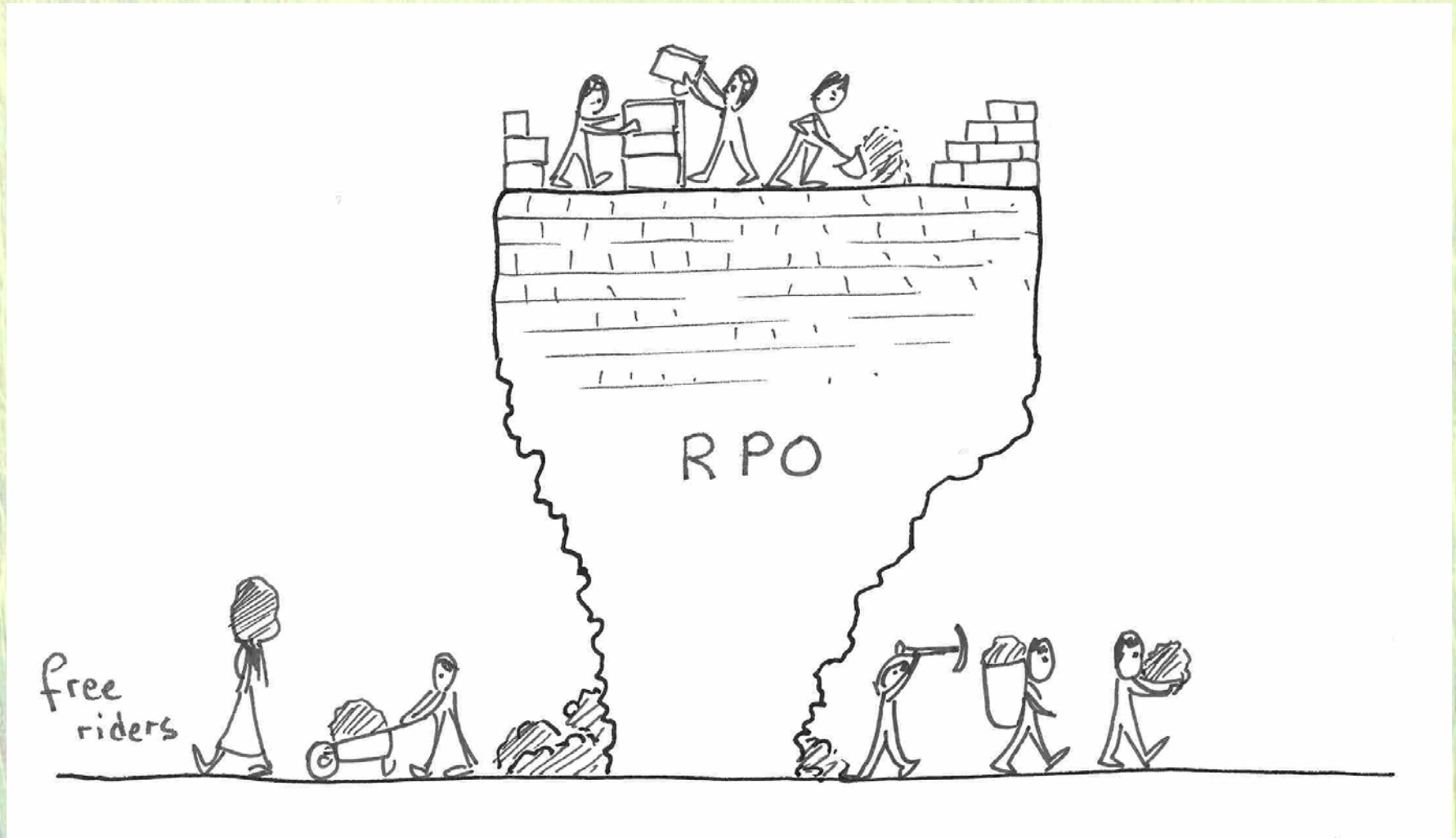
Collective action constraints (1)

RPOs link rural societies and their environment (interface institutions)



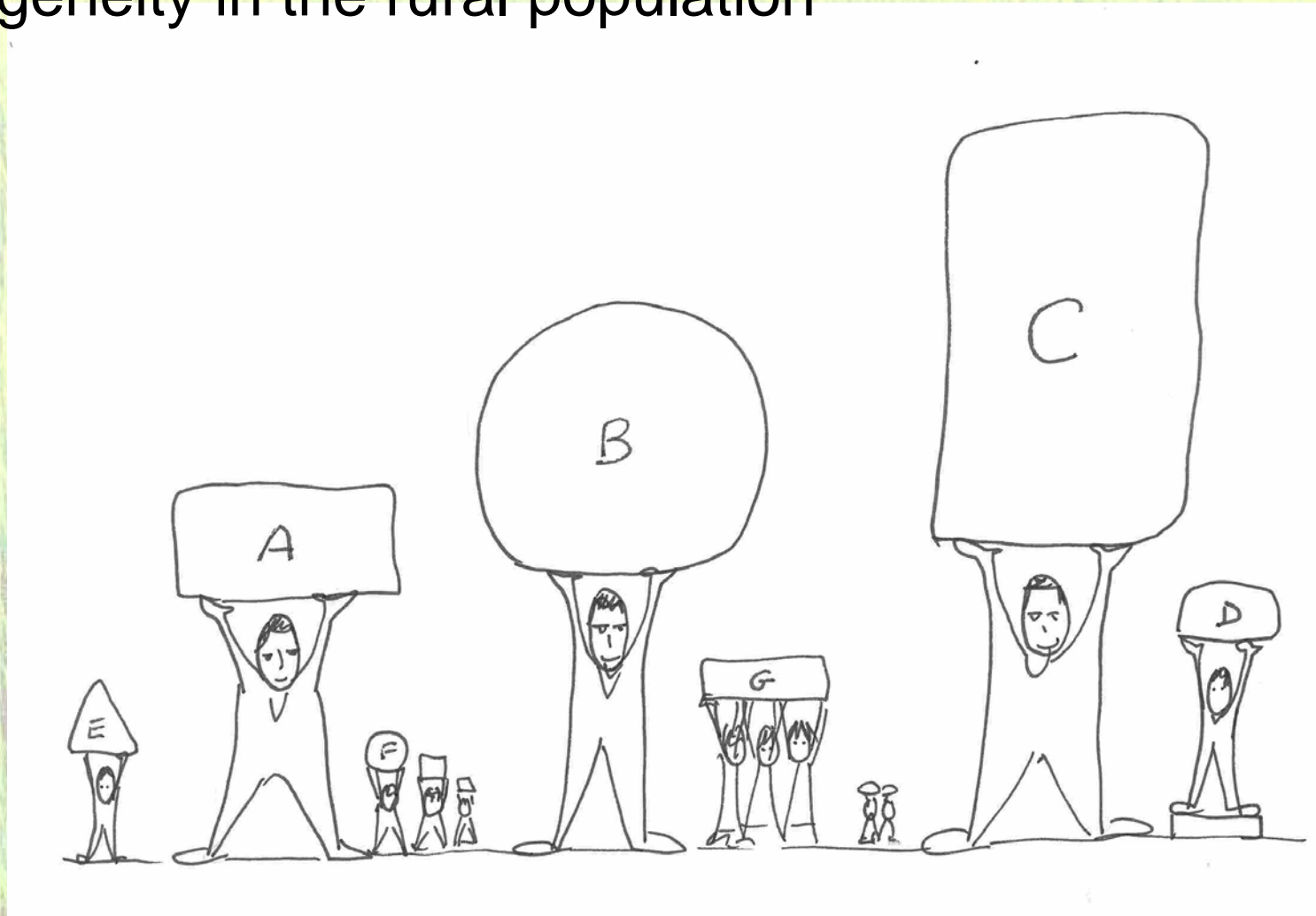
Collective action constraints (2)

Free-rider strategies...



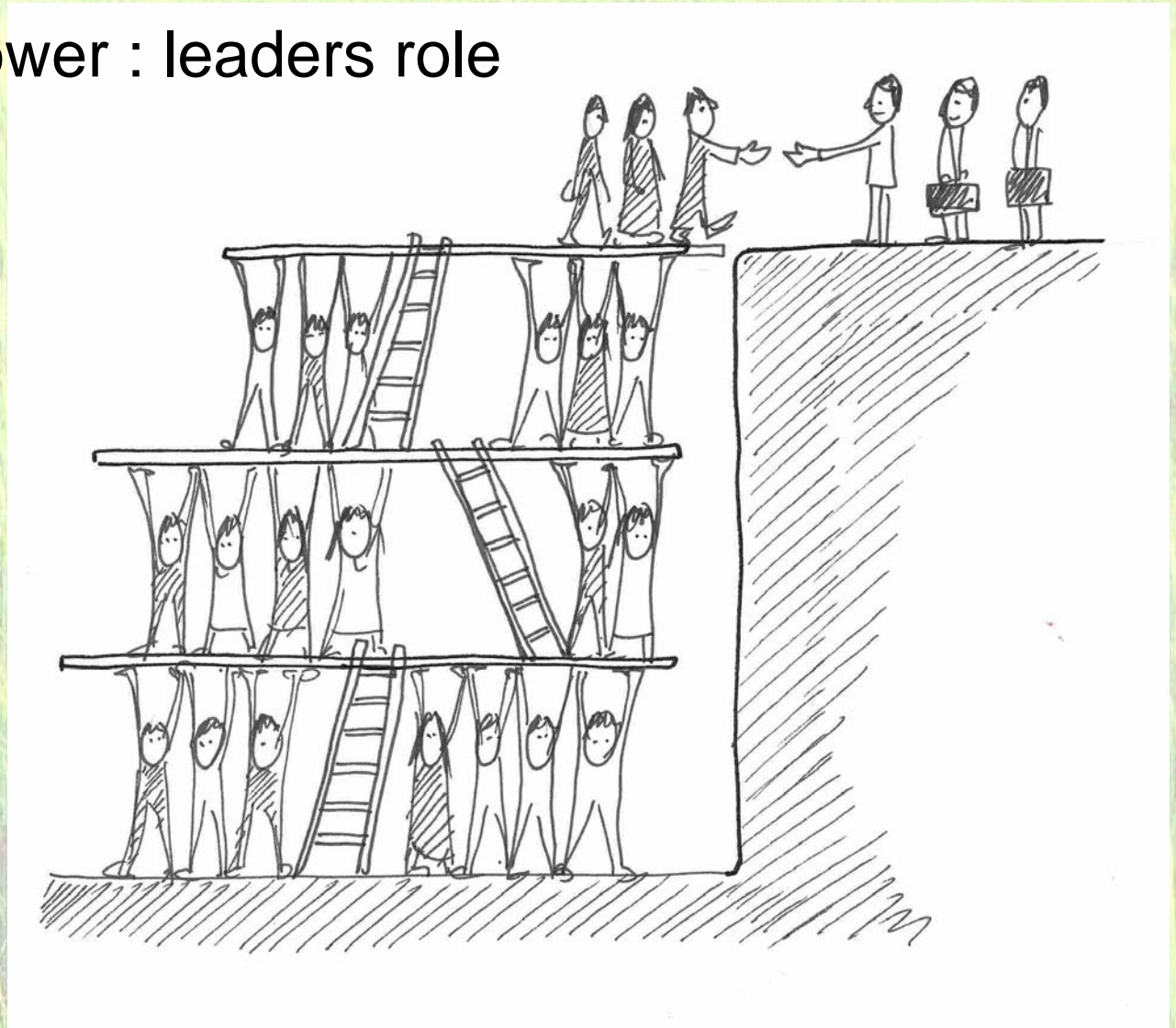
Collective action constraints (3)

Heterogeneity in the rural population



Collective action constraints (4)

Collective action and power : leaders role



Conclusion